

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

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1. A computer having a character input function, comprising:
  - a detecting section detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;
  - 10 a display section displaying a menu screen indicating registered dictionaries when the keyword is detected by said detecting section; and
  - 15 an issuing section issuing a search request for dictionary data specified by the keyword in a dictionary which is selected as a search target on the menu screen with respect to a dictionary search program.

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2. The computer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said issuing section issues the search request for the dictionary data specified by the keyword, with respect to a plurality of dictionaries which are selected as search targets during a time when a define instruction is made to define the input characters.

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3. The computer as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
  - 35 an ending section ending a started program in response to a selection made on the menu screen when a define instruction is made to define the input

characters.

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4. A computer having a character input function, comprising:

a detecting section detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

10 a display section displaying a menu screen indicating registered programs when the keyword is detected by said detecting section; and

15 a starting section starting a program which is selected on the menu screen while specifying the keyword or an attribute value corresponding to the keyword as a parameter.

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5. The computer as claimed in claim 4, further comprising:

25 a registering section registering data of a corresponding relationship of the keyword and the corresponding attribute value, according to an interactive process.

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6. The computer as claimed in claim 4, wherein said display section displays a program which cannot be started by the keyword on the menu screen with a format which indicates that the 35 program cannot be started.

7. The computer as claimed in claim 4,  
further comprising:

- an ending section ending a started program in  
response to a selection made on the menu screen when  
5 a define instruction is made to define the input  
characters.

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8. A computer having a character input  
function, comprising:

- a detecting section detecting a keyword which  
is specified by one or more input characters;  
15 a display section displaying a menu screen used  
for starting a program corresponding to the keyword  
when the keyword is detected by said detecting  
section; and  
a starting section starting the program  
20 corresponding to the keyword when a program start  
request is issued using the menu screen.

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9. The computer as claimed in claim 8,  
further comprising:

- a registering section registering data of a  
corresponding relationship of the keyword and the  
30 program, according to an interactive process.

35 10. The computer as claimed in claim 8,  
further comprising:

an ending section ending a started program in

response to a selection made on the menu screen when a define instruction is made to define the input characters.

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11. A computer having a character input function, comprising:

- 10        a detecting section detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;
- a display section displaying a menu screen indicating registered conversion programs when the keyword is detected by said detecting section; and
- 15        a starting section starting a conversion program which is selected using the menu screen to subject the keyword to a conversion according to the selected conversion program.

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12. The computer as claimed in claim 11, wherein said display section displays a conversion program which cannot convert the keyword on the menu screen with a format which indicates that the program cannot convert.

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13. The computer as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

- 35        an ending section ending a started program in response to a selection made on the menu screen when a define instruction is made to define the input

characters.

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14. A computer having a character input function, comprising:

a detecting section detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

10 a display section displaying a menu screen in response to a predetermined operation in a state where the keyword is detected by said detecting section; and

15 an executing section executing a process using the keyword depending on an item selected on the menu screen.

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15. A method of carrying out a process depending on input characters, comprising the steps of:

25 (a) detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

(b) displaying a menu screen indicating registered dictionaries when the keyword is detected by said step (a); and

30 (c) issuing a search request for dictionary data specified by the keyword in a dictionary which is selected as a search target on the menu screen with respect to a dictionary search program.

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16. A method of carrying out a process

depending on input characters, comprising the steps of:

- (a) detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;
- 5 (b) displaying a menu screen indicating registered programs when the keyword is detected by said step (a); and
- (c) starting a program which is selected on the menu screen while specifying the keyword or an 10 attribute value corresponding to the keyword as a parameter.

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17. A method of carrying out a process depending on input characters, comprising the steps of:

- (a) detecting a keyword which is specified by 20 one or more input characters;
- (b) displaying a menu screen used for starting a program corresponding to the keyword when the keyword is detected by said step (a); and
- (c) starting the program corresponding to the 25 keyword when a program start request is issued using the menu screen.

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18. A method of carrying out a process depending on input characters, comprising the steps of:

- (a) detecting a keyword which is specified by 35 one or more input characters;
- (b) displaying a menu screen indicating registered conversion programs when the keyword is

detected by said step (a); and

- (c) starting a conversion program which is selected using the menu screen to subject the keyword to a conversion according to the selected  
5 conversion program.

10 19. A method of carrying out a process depending on input characters, comprising the steps of:

- (a) detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;  
15 (b) displaying a menu screen in response to a predetermined operation in a state where the keyword is detected by said step (a); and  
(c) executing a process using the keyword depending on an item selected on the menu screen.  
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25 20. A computer-readable storage medium which stores a character input program for causing a computer to have a character input function, said character input program comprising:

- a detecting procedure causing the computer to detect a keyword which is specified by one or more  
30 input characters;  
a display procedure causing the computer to display a menu screen indicating registered dictionaries when the keyword is detected by said detecting procedure; and  
35 an issuing procedure causing the computer to issue a search request for dictionary data specified by the keyword in a dictionary which is selected as

a search target on the menu screen with respect to a dictionary search program.

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21. A computer-readable storage medium which stores a character input program for causing a computer to have a character input function, said  
10 character input program comprising:

a detecting procedure causing the computer to detect a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

15 a display procedure causing the computer to display a menu screen indicating registered programs when the keyword is detected by said detecting procedure; and

20 a starting procedure causing the computer to start a program which is selected on the menu screen while specifying the keyword or an attribute value corresponding to the keyword as a parameter.

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22. A computer-readable storage medium which stores a character input program for causing a computer to have a character input function, said character input program comprising:

30 a detecting procedure causing the computer to detect a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

35 a display procedure causing the computer to display a menu screen used for starting a program corresponding to the keyword when the keyword is detected by said detecting procedure; and

a starting procedure causing the computer to

start the program corresponding to the keyword when a program start request is issued using the menu screen.

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23. A computer-readable storage medium which stores a character input program for causing a  
10 computer to have a character input function, said character input program comprising:

a detecting program causing the computer to detect a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

15 a display procedure causing the computer to display a menu screen indicating registered conversion programs when the keyword is detected by said detecting procedure; and

20 a starting procedure causing the computer to start a conversion program which is selected using the menu screen to subject the keyword to a conversion according to the selected conversion program.

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24. A computer-readable storage medium which stores a character input program for causing a  
30 computer to have a character input function, said character input program comprising:

a detecting procedure causing the computer to detect a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

35 a display procedure causing the computer to display a menu screen in response to a predetermined operation in a state where the keyword is detected

by said detecting procedure; and

an executing procedure causing the computer to execute a process using the keyword depending on an item selected on the menu screen.

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